

CLASSIFICATION

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1A

Approved For Release CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT NO. 25X1A

## INFORMATION REPORT

194152

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 10 May 1943

SUBJECT The National Zeitung

NO. OF PAGES 2

25X1A

PLACE  
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO

25X1X

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

1. The new newspaper National Zeitung appeared in Berlin 22 March 1948 under a temporary GMA license. This paper is published in the Allgemeiner Deutscher Verlag which also prints the Berliner Zeitung. The head of this firm is Rudolf Herrnstadt, a well known correspondent of the Berliner Tageblatt. Herrnstadt fled from Germany to Poland and later to Russia. In Moscow he had an important post in the Comintern and during the war was one of the leading experts on German affairs. He is credited with the idea of the NKPD and was the leading spirit behind the paper Freies Deutschland.
2. On his return to Berlin in 1945, Herrnstadt began his present activities. His paper and publishing house are not officially connected with the KPD or SED. Its profits are paid to a special account called "Welfare Fund for PWs in the USSR". The publishing house prints many brochures and pamphlets for distribution to the Germans in the USSR.
3. Dr. Hans Hartmann is listed as editor-in-chief of the National Zeitung. He is a pacifist turned Nazi and now a tool of the Russians. He was refused denazification by the Artists' Tribunal in 1947. Hartmann was given the job of editor because of his connections with the Free Germany people. He has been instructed by Herrnstadt to exploit German military qualities and nationalism. The Volksrat propaganda in the National Zeitung is to be completely divorced of any Communist ideology. He has been promised that this paper will soon be more important than any other in Germany. It is to be conducted anonymously and is the only Russian-licensed paper privileged to use the militaristic line. The National Zeitung is scheduled to become the official "government paper" of the new Russian Zone government supposed to be formed on the basis of the NKPD.

A. von Wulcknitz is the Foreign Affairs and Military Editor of the National Zeitung. He is an old conservative officer, wrote military commentaries during the war, was with the Tagespiegel for a short period and then with the Berlin am Mittag. He also has close connections with the NKPD.

CLASSIFICATION

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE	NAVY	NSRB	WARNING NOTICE: THIS DISTRIBUTION LISTING MUST BE
ARMY	AIR		

EXCISED BEFORE PUBLIC RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT.

Document No.

NO CHANGE in Class

DECLASSIFIED

CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS

DDM Approved For Release 2001/04/18 CIA-RDP82-00457R001500290001-7

77/1763

0-2 MAY 1978

By: 01.3

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Extracted by F.I.R.

REFERENCE CENTER LIBRARY

This document is hereby regraded to  
 CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the  
 letter of 16 October 1978 from the  
 Director of Central Intelligence to the  
 Archivist of the United States.  
 Next Review Date: 2008

CONFIDENTIAL  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

194152

-2-

CONFIDENTIAL

5. Additional writers on the staff of the National Zeitung that have been identified include Otto Zander, Press Chief of the Hitler Youth Cultural Office; Gerhart Weise, correspondent of the Nazi Angriff and radio commentator under Goebbels; Hans Heinrich Henne, war correspondent for the Völkischer Beobachter.
6. The Russians have ordered the editorial staff of the National Zeitung to refrain from all public appearances. Hartmann's name was removed from the masthead after the second issue but he continues in charge. The aim of the National Zeitung is to win over all Nazi, militarist, and nationalist elements to a new "Unity Party" to be launched by the NKFD.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL